

Salt Management Strategy (SaMS)

2nd Salt Tracking and Reporting Workgroup Meeting

1st Meeting Highlights: discussions focused on identifying the scope of the workgroup, its audiences, expected workgroup outcomes, and began to explore mechanisms to better track and report salt usage and BMP implementation. The main take-aways from this meeting were:

- A high priority for this workgroup is to identify ways to encourage voluntary submittal of BMP implementation and salt use tracking information and define metrics for BMP effectiveness.
- The group suggested categorizing tracking practices based on the level of difficulty, from “coarse” to “refined”, and suggested starting with coarse approaches and refining them over time.
- The group agreed that top priority actions to track could be a modest set of predefined BMPs, with flexibility to also report on others.
- Directly reaching winter service operators will be essential to gain needed support for tracking and reporting, and frame recommendations that will not negatively affect operations.
- The STR workgroup members agreed that their audience includes both the private and public sectors, and different levels within each (from decision-makers to operators).

Workgroup Action items: Workgroup volunteers agreed to pursue three follow-up action items, and DEQ a fourth, prior to the second meeting of the STR Workgroup:

1. Reach out to members of Fairfax County’s Emergency Response and Snow Team to learn what metrics they currently track when they activate for a storm; how they determine storm severity, prioritize areas to treat, and triggers for application of different anti- or de-icing materials. (Volunteers: John Burke, Fairfax County; and Martin Hurd, Fairfax County)
2. Identify BMPs used in existing operations to inform reporting options. (Volunteer: Christina Alexander, City of Fairfax)
3. Look at contracting used by HOAs for opportunities to support STR objectives. (Volunteer: Dave Lincoln, Friends of Accotink Creek)
4. Develop a straw proposal or options for “coarse” level tracking of salt use and BMP implementation in advance of second STR workgroup meeting (DEQ/ICPRB).

Notes from other workgroups: during the 1st and 2nd Round meetings of the other SaMS workgroups, the following points were raised to the attention of the STR workgroup:

- **Education and Outreach:** (1) Other workgroups may benefit from being involved in the pilot outreach campaign or running a concurrent pilot project, and (2) Recommend coordinating on possible funding opportunities identified by other workgroups and identifying, collectively, possible funding needs prior to reaching out to those identified.
- **Traditional BMPs:** Measuring and reporting actual salt use is critical for understanding the benefits of implementing BMPs and evaluating progress towards targets (e.g., application rates). The Salt Tracking and Reporting workgroup should consider recommendations for determining baseline salt use.
- **Monitoring and Research:** The workgroup members recommended coordinating with the Salt Tracking & Reporting workgroup for:
 - Updates on recommendations (e.g., metrics for salt use)
 - Where BMPs are being implemented, both as a metric and if a pilot project occurs.
- **Non-Traditional BMPs:** Accountability, through tracking and reporting salt application, is an important component identified by members. This topic will be looked at by the Salt Tracking and Reporting Workgroup.
- **Government Coordination:** The Government Coordination Workgroup could act as an umbrella group to the other workgroups by assisting in disseminating their products. (All SaMS workgroups)